

WE CLAIM:

1           1. A composition comprising from 40 to 80% by  
2 weight of solids of an aqueous extract of oak bark.

1           2. A composition comprising  
2           10 to 80 parts potassium ions  
3           0.00001 to 20 parts zinc ions  
4           0.01 to 10 parts calcium ions  
5           0 to 40 parts rubidium ions, and  
6           0 to 5 parts sulfur, in the form of elemental  
7 sulfur or sulfate by weight of inorganic solids, optionally  
8 diluted in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, with the  
9 proviso that the composition is not identical to an aqueous  
10 extract of oak bark ash.

1           3. A composition according to claim 2, herein  
2 the carrier is water.

1           4. A composition according to claim 2, wherein  
2 the carrier is a creme base.

1           5. A method for treating cancerous and  
2 precancerous skin lesions comprising applying to the lesion  
3 an effective amount of a therapeutic composition comprising  
4 therapeutically effective amounts of potassium ions, calcium  
5 ions and zinc ions.

1           6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition is an aqueous extract of oak bark.

1           7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition contains at least 20% by weight of  
3 solids of oak bark extract.

1           8. A method according to claim 6, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition contains at least 40% by weight of  
3 solids of oak bark extract.

1           9. A method according to claim 5, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition comprises  
3           10 to 80 parts potassium ions  
4           0.00001 to 20 parts zinc ions  
5           0.01 to 10 parts calcium ions  
6           0 to 40 parts rubidium ions, and  
7           0 to 5 parts sulfur, in the form of elemental  
8 sulfur or sulfate by weight of inorganic solids, optionally  
9 diluted in a carrier.

1           10. A method for treating psoriasis comprising  
2 topically applying a composition comprising an effective  
3 amount of a therapeutic composition comprising therapeuti-  
4 cally effective amounts of potassium ions, calcium ions and  
5 zinc ions to psoriatic skin.

1           11. A method according to claim 10, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition comprises an aqueous extract of oak  
3 bark.

1           12. A method according to claim 11, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition contains at least 10% oak bark  
3 extract solids by weight.

1           13. A method according to claim 10, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition comprises  
3           10 to 80 parts potassium ions  
4           .00001 to 20 parts zinc ions  
5           .01 to 10 parts calcium ions  
6           0 to 40 parts rubidium ions, and  
7           0 to 5 parts sulfur, in the form of elemental  
8 sulfur or sulfate by weight of inorganic solids, optionally  
9 diluted in a carrier.

1           14. A method for treating impetigo comprising  
2 topically applying a composition comprising an effective  
3 amount of a therapeutic composition comprising therapeuti-  
4 cally effective amounts of potassium ions, zinc ions and  
5 calcium ions to impetigos skin.

1           15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition comprises an aqueous extract of oak  
3 bark.

1           16. A method according to claim 15, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition contains at least 10% oak bark  
3 extract solids by weight.

1           17. A method according to claim 10, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition comprises

3 10 to 80 parts potassium ions  
4 .00001 to 20 parts zinc ions  
5 .01 to 10 parts calcium ions  
6 0 to 40 parts rubidium ions, and  
7 0 to 5 parts sulfur, in the form of elemental  
8 sulfur or sulfate by weight of inorganic solids, optionally  
9 diluted in a carrier.

1 18. A method for treating gangrene comprising  
2 topically applying a composition comprising an effective  
3 amount of a therapeutic composition comprising therapeuti-  
4 cally effective amounts of potassium ions, calcium ions and  
5 zinc ions to gangrenous tissue.

1 19. A method according to claim 18, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition comprises an aqueous extract of oak  
3 bark.

1 20. A method according to claim 18, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition contains at least 10% oak bark  
3 extract solids by weight.

1 21. A method according to claim 18, wherein the  
2 therapeutic composition comprises

3 10 to 80 parts potassium ions  
4 .00001 to 20 parts zinc ions  
5 .01 to 10 parts calcium ions  
6 0 to 40 parts rubidium ions, and

7 0 to 5 parts sulfur, in the form of elemental  
8 sulfur or sulfate by weight of inorganic solids, optionally  
9 diluted in a carrier.

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